

## Weather Forecast

Rain this afternoon, clearing and becoming windy, low near 38 degrees tonight. Partly cloudy, cold tomorrow. Full report Page A-2.

Temperatures Today:

Midnight	38	6 a.m.	38	11 a.m.	38
2 a.m.	39	8 a.m.	39	1 p.m.	39
4 a.m.	39	10 a.m.	38	1 p.m.	40

New York Markets Closed Today.

# The Evening Star

WITH SUNDAY MORNING EDITION

## Guide for Readers

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WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1948—FORTY PAGES. \*\*

## 11 Bodies Found After Missouri Trains Collide

Engine Telescopes Pullman in Storm; Aid Is Rushed

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Jan. 1.—The State Highway Patrol reported today that 11 bodies had been located in a railroad wreck involving two Missouri Pacific trains near Syracuse, Mo., 95 miles east of Kansas City.

Col. Hugh H. Waggoner, superintendent of the patrol, said the bodies were found in the rear pullman coach of the first section of the westbound train, Missouri Pacific No. 9. He said the engine of the second section, a mail and express train, had telescoped all but four feet of the coach.

Blow torches were being rushed from Sedalia, Mo., 16 miles west of the scene, to cut away the debris and remove the bodies.

### Crash Occurs in Snowstorm

The accident occurred during a snowstorm which swept this section of the State. Hazardous roads and disrupted communications delayed rescue crews, doctors and ambulances in reaching the scene.

R. G. Gearhart, about 35, died of injuries in a hospital at Sedalia. Two others were brought to the Sedalia hospital. Their condition was not critical.

First direct word of the wreck came from P. F. Quaintance, Kansas City, a mail clerk, who said the two rear pullman cars of the first section were badly wrecked.

### Ambulances Rushed

All available physicians and ambulances in Sedalia and Jefferson City were ordered rushed to the scene.

Mr. Quaintance said he obtained no detailed information because the baggage car and mail cars of the first section were detached and brought to Ottumwa.

He said the first section was traveling from 10 to 15 miles an hour at the time of the crash about 8 a.m.

## Tariff Cuts Go Into Effect On Hundreds of Products

Tariff reductions on hundreds of products went into effect today in the United States and in other countries in accordance with a general international agreement reached at Geneva.

Scotch whisky from Britain, sugar and tobacco from Cuba and wines from France were included in the import duty cuts made by the United States in return for concessions on American exports.

Other countries putting into effect now the pact made at the international trade conference in October are Australia, Canada, and the Belgium-Netherlands-Luxembourg Customs Union.

As additional countries ratify the agreement tariff cuts and other mutual concessions will be formally proclaimed on products in which they have primary concern.

At the time the pact was announced the Nations Association of Alcoholic Beverage Importers said one result would be a 30-cent drop in the retail price of fifth of imported whisky. The association said the saving would be passed on to consumers quickly.

## 1,500,000 Jam Streets For Tournament of Roses

PASADENA, Calif., Jan. 1.—Colorado street became a gigantic floral wonderland today.

The 59th Tournament of Roses parade also found the famous street jammed by 1,500,000 persons at parade time. They began arriving in the night and continued to come in to stake claim to choice vantage points along the 2-mile route. Blankets, camp chairs, thermos bottles of coffee and sandwiches were standard equipment with the earlybirds.

Throughout the night before the parade, hundreds of volunteers and paid workers pasted and tacked decorations and attached millions of fresh flowers to the 58 floats entering in the parade. The theme this year was "Our Golden West."

Gen. Omar N. Bradley, Army Chief of Staff, designated was grand marshal of the parade. Lovely Virginia Goodhue of San Gabriel as Tournament of Roses queen, rode in the place of honor with her court of six princesses.

## Siam Terminates State of Emergency

BANGKOK, Jan. 1.—The Siamese Defense Ministry ended today the state of emergency which has existed since Field Marshal Pibul Songgram, wartime dictator during the Japanese occupation, overthrew the existing government last November 9. The ministry's action sent Siam into the new year with civil authorities in full control.

Government spokesmen said that military phases of the coup had "definitely ended" and that normal conditions could return to this country, which supplies the world with tin, tungsten, antimony and other important raw materials.

During the state of emergency the army was held on the alert and all leaves were canceled.

The Defense Ministry's decision followed a New Year's eve meeting between Pibul and two of his political opponents—former Premier Thanom Kiat and former Police Chief-Songworn Yuddhakich, both rear admirals in the Siamese Navy.

The two men were said to have assured Pibul that no counter-revolution was being planned.

Racing Results, Page A-3

## New Year Gets Big Welcome, But Not as Big as '46 or '47

Celebration in District Is More Restrained But Still Joyous, Loud and Rough in Spots

Washington welcomed 1948 early today with noticeably more restraint than the bursts of jubilation which greeted the first two postwar new years, but the celebration was joyous, highly audible and rough in spots.

Firemen had a busy night, spent most of their time chasing down false alarms and small fires attributed by police to New Year's eve pranksters.

Between midnight and 6 a.m. today, police reported, firemen responded to 17 false alarms. Minor fires included a flaming Christmas tree in the 600 block of U Street N.W. Most serious, according to police, was a second-floor blaze shortly before midnight at 401 I Street N.W. Savannah Durr, 34, colored, and James Blount, 18, colored, who live on the second floor, leaped to the ground from an upper-story window before firemen arrived, police said. Both were treated at Freedmen's Hospital and released.

Isadore Decklebaum reported that his liquor store, at 1435 Ninth street

N.W., was broken into at 12:01 a.m. today. An undetermined quantity of liquor, he said, was taken.

The night was relatively mild, if misty, and the city awoke—or at least a small part of it did—to gray skies and a prospect of rain this afternoon and night. The Weather Bureau believes tomorrow will bring clearing, windy and colder weather.

The merrymaking last night ran up and down the scale from a formal supper and dance at the White House for the friends of Margaret Truman to a community dance which drew more than 2,400 young couples to the National Guard Armory.

While table space at dance places in the Shoreham, Statler, Carlton and Wardman Park Hotels were sold out in advance, and hundreds of couples were turned away, the city-wide celebration was marked by a return to the private party where drinks were purchased in bottle or case lots and there were no cover charges.

This was the consensus of a few taxicab drivers still cruising downtown.

(See NEW YEAR, Page A-2.)

## Nearly Score Killed As Tornadoes Slash Louisiana, Arkansas

15 Bodies Recovered; 200 Hurt as Twister Rips Into Small Towns

SHREVEPORT, La., Jan. 1.—Louisiana counted nearly a score dead today after tornadoes tore through Northwestern Louisiana and widely separated points in Arkansas, striking five towns and injuring some 200 persons.

At least 15 bodies have been recovered at Cotton Valley, a small oil and railroad town northeast of Shreveport. An unidentified colored man was killed at Leton, La. A woman was fatally injured at Dykesville, La., and an unidentified colored man was killed at Haynesville, La. At Vidor, a school superintendent was killed when a high school gymnasium was demolished.

A twister also struck Gillham, in Southwest Arkansas, destroying one house, but there were no deaths or injuries reported there.

Saw House Pulled Into Air.

The funnel-shaped twister was sighted first south of Vanceville, La., by Herman Jones of Bossier City. He said he saw the funnel dip toward the earth as he drove along a highway. He abandoned his automobile for the comparative safety of a roadside ditch, he said, and watched the funnel pull up a house from nearby woods.

At that time, Mr. Jones said, the little town again, this time from the northeast, and demolished many homes.

Slashing across wooded and swampy sections of Bossier parish, the twister struck Cotton Valley from the southwest, damaging much of the business district.

Then it came back to strike the little town again, this time from the northeast, and demolished many homes.

500 Persons Homeless.

Mayor Sam Coyle estimates 500 persons are homeless and that the list of injured in Cotton Valley alone will reach 200.

A check of hospitals in the stricken area showed at least 170 persons have been treated for storm injuries.

The storm roared through Leton and Dykesville, La., before invading Haynesville where it struck the western and northern edges of the town, doing far damage to the business district. More than 30 buildings were destroyed or seriously damaged, including a number of homes.

(See TORNADOES, Page A-3.)

## President of Honduras Escapes Assassination

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras, Jan. 1.—Police said they frustrated an attempt by Antonio Castellan yesterday to assassinate President Tiburcio Carías after Castellan killed one man and wounded a policeman.

Authorities quoted Castellan as saying he came from his home in nearby Tutumbia expressly to kill the President. They said he stabbed Juan Ramon Midence to death in front of the presidential residence and then ran through the house before he was subdued. There was no explanation of his motive.

This form sale officials pointed out, sometime next spring.

The general was said to have accepted, after an offer from a newspaper syndicate to sell the book, movie and magazine rights to his memoirs "in one package," with serial publication beginning probably sometime next spring.

Gen. Eisenhower's office refused to comment on the deal today, except to say that the general was "still drawing."

Charles P. Suman, chief of the taxpayers' ruling section. "The courts have ruled time and again that a person does not have to take the most expensive way of paying his taxes."

Under present tax rates on income, surtaxes on a \$500,000 deal would push the tax due the Government to more than \$400,000, or 80 per cent of the total income.

If the transaction could be classed as a capital gain, however, the Government's share would be about \$125,000.

Friends of the general pointed out that, if he closes the deal, it will be the first time Gen. Eisenhower will have been able to cash in on his wartime experiences, over and above his soldier's salary. One associate remarked that "it's high time" the general received some reward.

The identity of the purchasing syndicate was not learned. One source, however, said the final sale figure may reach as high as \$750,000.

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## Jewish Raiders Kill 6, Wound 30 Arab Villagers

Two Attacks Staged In Reprisal for Oil Refinery Massacre

BRITISH INTERCEPT Refugee Ships With 11,000 Jews. Page A-4

BULLETIN

JERUSALEM (AP)—Officials said a ship carrying 700 unidentified Jews was beached today at Nahariya, 10 miles north of Haifa, in the area allotted under impending partition to the Arab State of Palestine.

By the Associated Press

JERUSALEM, Jan. 1.—Jewish reprisal forces blasted into two Arab villages today with chattering machine guns and bursting grenades, killing 6 Arabs and wounding 30, Palestine police reported.

Two Jews were killed.

The raid, made at 3 a.m. on the villages of Balad Esh Shiekh and Hawassa, were believed to be in retaliation for the massacre by Arab forces of two Jews Tuesday in the Consolidated Refinery plant at Haifa. Both villages are mainly occupied by Arab refinery workers.

The Associated Press count of dead in Palestine since communal strife erupted following the United Nations decision November 29 to partition the Holy Land rose to 500.

(The exiled Mufti of Jerusalem, Haj Amin El Hussein, told reporters in Cairo he was "satisfied with Arab resistance" to the U. N. decision. He had just conferred with Premier Mahmoud Fahmy Nokrashy Pasha of Egypt.)

Sporadic shooting occurred in the streets of Haifa during the morning, and some 40 Jews and Arabs were reported wounded slightly.

Arabs in Jerusalem attacked Jewish buses three times, but no casualties were reported.

Two Arabs attacked two British constables leaving a courtroom in Jaffa. One of the Arabs was shot dead and the other ran.

Rail Line Is Blasted.

In the old walled city of Jerusalem, police said, a Jewish bus was virtually isolated several hundred Jews and the Jewish Burial Society opened a new cemetery to avoid the necessity for long corteges, many of which have been shot up recently.

The rail line between Jaffa and Tel Aviv was blasted in four places by Jewish bombs and there was sporadic sniping in other parts of the Holy Land.

Communal fighting on the last day of 1947 ended 10 more persons to the long list of those who have met violent deaths.

The passing of the old year also was marked by another act of violence in Nazareth, where a meeting of armed men—believed by police to be Arabs—robbed Barclay's Bank of about \$4,000.

The unabated reign of terror served to focus attention sharply on the newly-completed five-member U. N. Commission which is scheduled to hold its first meeting in New York on January 9 to draft plans for effecting the partition of Palestine and restoring peace.

With both Jews and Arabs preparing for outright civil war, the question of what the commission will do was a matter of life and death in the Holy Land.

So far there has been little indication of any great confidence here that the commission will be able to replace the British civil services in May when the British mandate ends, or that it will be able to replace the British Army and police forces when they withdraw in August.

The commission has full responsibility for setting up provisional governments and security forces in the proposed Jewish and Arab states, but the bitterness of the current struggle indicates this may be a considerable task.

Theoretically the United Nations decisions are backed by the armed might of the member nations, but actually no international military force has been set up.

Britain, with close to 70,000 men here, has announced that she will have no part in the enforcement of partition. Few persons here think that the United States—one of the principal sponsors of the partition—really will send any troops to Palestine.

Most observers in Palestine believe that when the U. N. commission arrives here—probably about January 30—it still will lack any tangible means of insuring peace.

10,000 Guerrillas Take Part.

Seiofficial reports said approximately 10,000 guerrillas took part in the general operation against Konitsa, with 5,000 shock troops assigned the task of forcing a way into town. The remainder were scattered along lines of approach, particularly on the road from Kalamaki to Bourazani Bridge. It was estimated that 2,000 to 4,000 guerrillas tried to keep this vital communications artery closed while waves of shock troops smashed unavailably at Konitsa.

Violently attacking national forces, however, knocked out defense positions covering the road often in a matter of minutes and hand-to-hand fighting while tanks and armored cars supported them from the highway proper.

It was the second time within a year that the guerrillas had attempted to seize Konitsa. Their previous unsuccessful effort occurred in June, when they made an "invasion" from Albania amid unconfirmed reports that an international brigade was participating.

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## Mediators Still Hoping To Avert Cable Strike Set for Midnight

Talks Resumed Today With 2 of 4 Companies On Wage Demands

By the Associated Press

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—Guarded optimism was expressed by a Federal mediator last night on the eve of a threatened strike of 3,000 union communication workers against four cable companies.

The mediator, involving members of the CIO American Communications Association and an independent union, has been set for midnight tonight.

The note of hopefulness was sounded by John A. Dofy, acting regional director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, despite an A. G. A. announcement that negotiations had been broken off with two of the companies, Mackay Radio and Telegraph, Inc., and Commercial Cable Co.

Hope to Set Pattern.

Talks were to be resumed today with the remaining two, Western Union Cables and All-America Cables & Radio, Inc., the latter negotiating with members of the Independent Union, the All-America Cables Employees' Association.

"We will certainly have to make much more progress," Mr. Dofy commented, "but at least we have a toehold for the first time. We are hoping that developments in the Western Union dispute will set a pattern that will enable us to prevent stoppages in all the companies."

Disagreement on Pay.

If the strike takes place it will sever nearly two-thirds of the facilities normally used for international radio and cable communication between the United States and the rest of the world.

Chief points of disagreement, a company spokesman said, are the unions' demands for a 30 per cent wage increase and a contract clause which, in effect, would continue the existing closed shop agreement.

Present salaries, he said, range from \$55.91 to \$73.23 for operators and \$38.61 to \$65.65 for clerks.

The companies had offered operating jobs totaling \$1,925,661 during the first nine months of 1947, the spokesman asserted, adding that they would not consider the wage increase demands.

Philadelphia's Mimmers Defy Weather to Parade

By the Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 1.—Defying rain and gusty winds, Philadelphia's Mimmers put on their 48th carnival splendor, merrymaking and music today.

The fancy division with elaborate capes blowing and hard to handle in the wind had barely reached City Hall when a light rain began to fall. Seventeen string bands refused to start in the rain.

It was a march that cost an estimated \$150,000 to put on the streets. Spectators outnumbered the estimated 500,000 who stood through sleet and snow to watch last year's show.

The parade, a Philadelphia tradition, had its origin as a neighborhood affair. It gradually achieved widespread attention and became a city-wide New Year's Day celebration in 1901. Marchers spend months preparing the silk and beaded costumes which compete for \$30,000 in prizes.

'Blue Baby' Operation Studied for French Boy

By the Associated Press

BALTIMORE, Jan. 1.—Christian Mairin, 8, son of the perfect of Lisleux, France, will undergo a series of examinations starting Monday to see whether his heart condition can be helped by the "blue baby" operation, Johns Hopkins Hospital doctors said yesterday.

Britain Sells 100 Million Of Gold in December

By the Associated Press

LONDON, Jan. 1.—The Treasury announced tonight that Britain sold \$100,000,000 worth of sterling area gold reserves during December.

## Strike Over One-Cent Boost for Cup of Tea Delays Mauretania

By the Associated Press

SOUTHAMPTON, England, Jan. 1.—A 1-cent increase in the price of a mug of tea provoked a short, unofficial strike today of 1,700 dock workers, delaying for an hour the sailing of the S. S. Mauretania for New York.

The dock canteen had increased the price from three half-pennies (3 cents) to two pence (4 cents).

The men called off their walkout soon after it started and will protest to the Port Employers' Association.

Letters of authorization filed with the Criminal Court clerk last night by Attorney General Clark opened the way for a widespread probe of all food prices, manufacture and distribution in the District. It was reliably reported, however, that the initial examination will deal with possible anti-trust law violations in the milk industry.

The United States marshal's office yesterday mailed subpoenas to several prospective witnesses, including officials of "some milk producers and distributors" in the Washington area. A Justice Department spokesman said the subpoenas in most instances call for personal appearances as well as production of records by executives of the companies.

Mr. Clark designated John Ford Baecher, George Haddock, Robert Winn and John Skiles as special assistants to the Attorney General to handle the grand jury presentation. They are attorneys in the Anti-trust Division of the Justice Department. Mr. Baecher is first assistant in that division, which is headed by Assistant Attorney General John F. Sonnett.

No Hint of Special Panel.

Justice Department officials and United States Attorney George Morris said they did not disclose whether the investigation will be made by a special District grand jury sworn in early last month or by the regular grand jury to be sworn in Tuesday.

Investigations into real estate brokerage commission procedures and oil and gasoline prices in the District were conducted here last August by Justice Department prosecutors with special grand juries.

The real estate investigation resulted in the indictment of Washington Real Estate Board and the National Association of Real Estate Brokers on charges of conspiracy to fix brokers' fees here. The gas and oil examination was temporarily discontinued when the grand jury was discharged.

Food Prices Surprise.

The food prices investigation has been under consideration for several months. The annual report will be made by a District grand jury, however, came as a surprise, in view of earlier indications that it would take place in other Federal court jurisdictions.

Mr. Clark declared last August 12 that he had directed the Anti-trust Division "to launch immediately a program aimed at conspiracies to maintain or to increase present prices in the food, clothing and housing fields."

"Such conspiracies will be prosecuted criminally," he said, "and in those cases the Justice Department will oppose acceptance by the

(See PRICE PROBE, Page A-5.)

Feature Event of Star Games Promises Spectacular Sprinting

Sprinting such as Washington has never witnessed will mark the feature event of The Evening Star Games Saturday night in the District National Guard Armory at Eighteenth and East Capitol streets.

Gathered in The Evening Star sprint series will be six of the fastest men in the country, five of whom are or have been champions and the sixth, while not winning a championship, has done the 100-yard dash in 9.6 seconds, just two-tenths of a second more than the world's record. In fact, to be invited to the series, each of the six was required to have a 9.6 mark in his credit for the 100-yard dash.